



Leap of Faith

FEBRUARY 2024

F. R. O. G.
Forever Relying On God



We celebrate great leaders and love in February. May we not limit our love to the romance of Valentine's Day. Jesus demonstrated love" for the unlovable, the marginalized, and those that society forgot.

Whether you have a sweetheart or celebrate "galentines" with friends, showing love to others can make the chill of February warmer. I John 4:7 says, "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God". As Christians, we have the opportunity to share God's love with those all around us.

I found this on Facebook, and I think it resonates with us as a congregation, especially if you change "praising" to "loving". "I believe churches are meant for praising/loving God. But so are 2 am car rides, showers, coffee shops, the gym, conversations with friends, strangers, etc. Don't let a building confine your faith because we will never change the world by just going to church, we need to be the church". We can do that with love!

Amen Reverend Laura

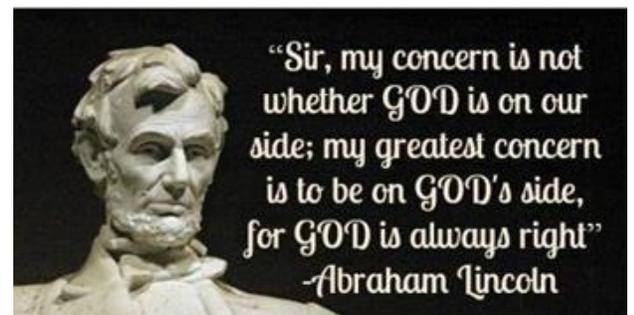
COME TO WORSHIP WITH US!

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here at St. John's United Church of Christ.



IMPORTANT DATES FOR FEBRUARY

- 02 – Groundhog Day
- 11 – Transfiguration Sunday
- 13 – Fat Tuesday
- 14 – Valentine's Day
- 14 – Ash Wednesday (Start of Lent)
- 17 – Random Acts of Kindness Day
- 19 – Presidents' Day
- 29 – Leap Day



Bible Quiz: The Presentation of the Lord

1) When Jesus was about 40 days old, Mary and Joseph took Him to the temple in Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord, according to Jewish custom.

What sacrifice did Mary and Joseph offer at that time?

- A young lamb
- A pair of sparrows
- A pair of turtledoves or pigeons
- A young goat

3) What did Simeon say to Mary?

- "This child has been appointed ruler and judge of the living and the dead."
- "This child will change the world like none who has gone before."
- "This child will be the salvation of all who put their trust in Him."
- "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed."

2) There was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. What had been revealed to Simeon by the Holy Spirit?

- He would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ.
- Jesus would die by crucifixion.
- Herod would try to kill Jesus.
- The wise men from the East would soon arrive to worship Jesus.

4) A certain prophetess also was at the temple giving thanks to God and speaking of Him. What was her name?

- Anna
- Deborah
- Hannah
- Miriam



CONSISTORY MEMBERS

Mary Ellen Harris (Pres)
Jean Quillin (VP)
Kelly Harris (Sec)
George Adamson (Treas)
Wayne Knudson
Edward Quillin
Courtney Papa
Dennis Harris

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FEBRUARY WORSHIP LEADERS

- Feb 04** Laura Doty, Reverend
Liturgist – Courtney Papa-Abell
- 11** Laura Doty, Reverend
Liturgist – Kelly Harris
- 18** Jamelle Godlewski, Guest Speaker
Liturgist – Kolten Harris
- 25** Laura Doty, Reverend
Liturgist – Mary Ellen Harris

Thank you to everyone for helping out!

Answers to the Bible Quiz

1) What sacrifice did Mary and Joseph offer at that time?

The answer is: A pair of turtledoves or pigeons

[Luke 2:22-24](#). Mary and Joseph took Jesus to Jerusalem, which is only a few miles from Bethlehem. The sacrifice of birds indicates Joseph and Mary were poor; a lamb would have been the usual sacrifice.

2) There was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. What had been revealed to Simeon by the Holy Spirit?

The answer is: He would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

[Luke 2:25-27](#)

3) What did Simeon say to Mary?

The answer is: "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed."

[Luke 2:28-35](#). It had been revealed to Simeon that the coming of Jesus would cause great upheaval in Israel, and that His influence would extend to the Gentiles.

4) A certain prophetess also was at the temple giving thanks to God and speaking of Him. What was her name?

The answer is: Anna

[Luke 2:36-40](#). Many women with prophetic powers are mentioned in both Old and New Testaments. The Bible does not say why Anna was called a prophetess.

“Love the LORD your God with all your heart and all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself.”

Luke 10:27

FOOD FOR FOLKS

Ongoing Food Pantry Needs For Church Community Services

- Canned meat and vegetables
- Hearty soups and ready-to-heat canned pasta meals
- Cereals (hot and cold)
- Crackers
- Rice
- Pasta
- Spaghetti sauce
- Hamburger Helper-like meal helpers
- Peanut butter
- Jelly
- Condiments
- Boxed potatoes
- Toilet paper
- Soap
- Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Feminine hygiene products
- Diapers, wipes, baby shampoo and body wash



In January, we gave out gloves and fruit bars to the needy who came to Central Christian's free breakfast? Thanks to all who donated gloves, fruit bars and money.

On January 13 we didn't have our chronic pain support group. I canceled it due to bad weather. The first meeting will be on February 10. It will continue to be on the second Saturday of every month at 10am in the clubhouse at Brentwood Assisted Living. All are welcome to come. The first meeting will be to get to know each other and to inform you on how we will conduct our meetings. I will be using the book "Broken & Mended" by David Heflin as a guide.



Church Community Services

Needs our help now more than ever. Please consider a food donation or a monetary donation. Please go to their website and click on Donate Button.

<https://www.churchcommunityservices.org/>

Epiphany Year B	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
<u>Presentation of the Lord</u> February 2, 2024 <u>ART -- PRAYER</u>	<u>Malachi 3:1-4</u>	<u>Psalm 84</u> or <u>Psalm 24:7-10</u>	<u>Hebrews 2:14-18</u>	<u>Luke 2:22-40</u>
<u>Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany</u> February 4, 2024 <u>ART -- PRAYER</u>	<u>Isaiah 40:21-31</u>	<u>Psalm 147:1-11, 20c</u>	<u>1 Corinthians 9:16-23</u>	<u>Mark 1:29-39</u>
<u>Transfiguration Sunday</u> February 11, 2024 (Last Sunday before Lent) <u>ART -- PRAYER</u>	<u>2 Kings 2:1-12</u>	<u>Psalm 50:1-6</u>	<u>2 Corinthians 4:3-6</u>	<u>Mark 9:2-9</u>
Lent Year B	First reading	Psalm	Second reading	Gospel
<u>Ash Wednesday</u> February 14, 2024 <u>ART -- PRAYER</u>	<u>Joel 2:1-2, 12-17</u> or <u>Isaiah 58:1-12</u>	<u>Psalm 51:1-17</u>	<u>2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10</u>	<u>Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21</u>
<u>First Sunday in Lent</u> February 18, 2024 <u>ART -- PRAYER</u>	<u>Genesis 9:8-17</u>	<u>Psalm 25:1-10</u>	<u>1 Peter 3:18-22</u>	<u>Mark 1:9-15</u>
<u>Second Sunday in Lent</u> February 25, 2024 <u>ART -- PRAYER</u>	<u>Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16</u>	<u>Psalm 22:23-31</u>	<u>Romans 4:13-25</u>	<u>Mark 8:31-38</u> or <u>Mark 9:2-9</u>



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